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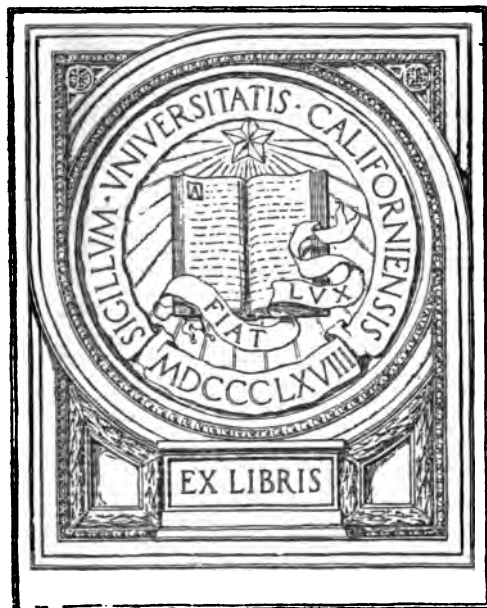
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The LIQUOR PROBLEM in RUSSIA

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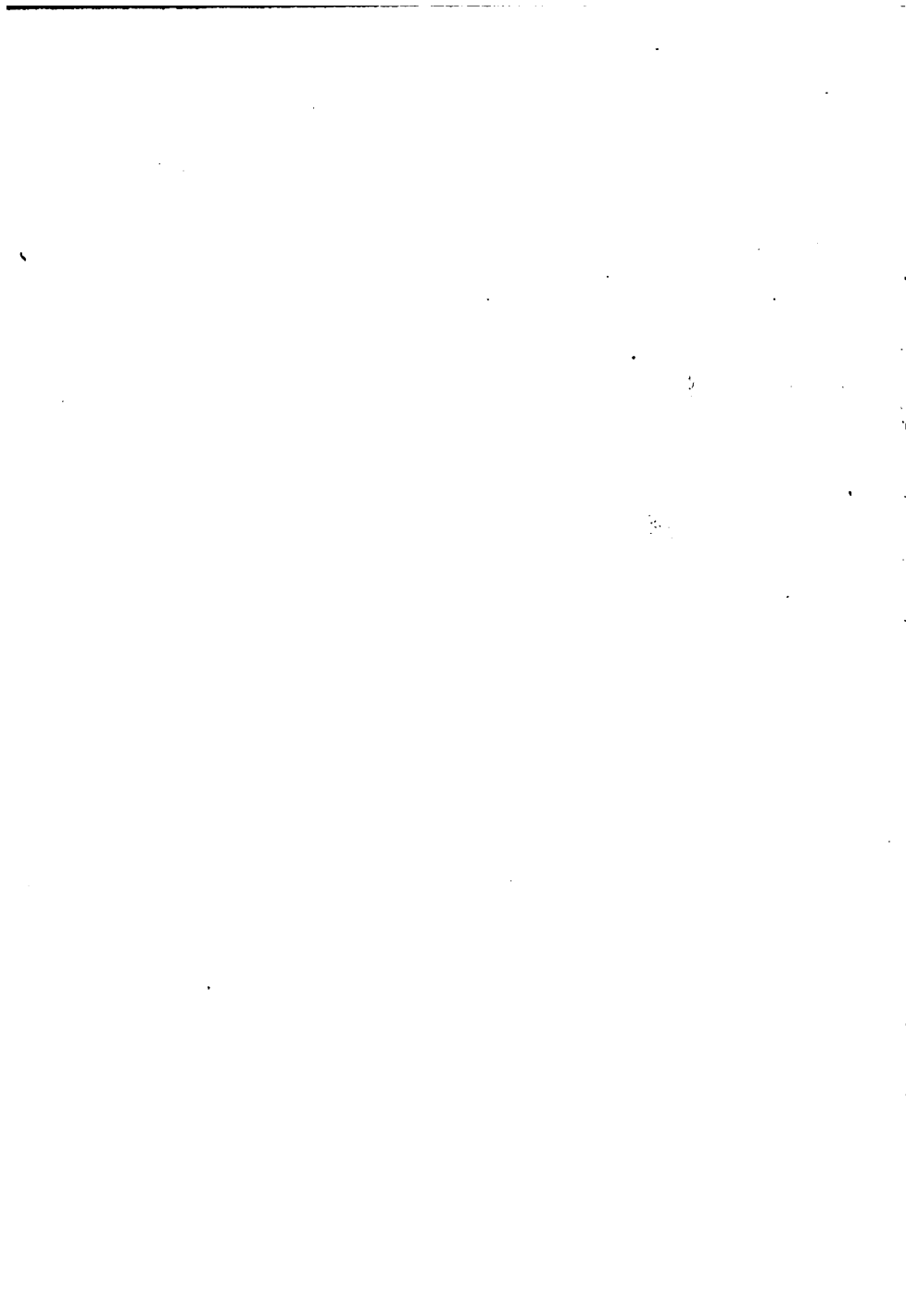
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**THE LIQUOR PROBLEM
IN RUSSIA**





Nicholas II

TO THE
ADMINISTRATIVE



The LIQUOR PROBLEM IN RUSSIA

By

WILLIAM E. JOHNSON

Author of
"The Federal Government and the
Liquor Traffic"



1915

**THE AMERICAN ISSUE PUBLISHING COMPANY
WESTERVILLE, OHIO**

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TO THE
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FOREWORD

 HIS volume is one result of studies that I began on Russian social problems in 1913, when I visited that country with the intent of doing some muckraking in connection with the vodka monopoly. I did not carry out my original purpose, for, wherever I went, I felt a powerful undertow that indicated better things to come. The greatest men in Russia had recognized the national mistake and were thinking; and, when a Russian begins to think, something is apt to break. The greatest newspapers of the country were publishing accounts of the failure of the monopoly enterprise. Its sponsors and promoters were turning against it. The monopoly statistics were referred to as the "drunken statistics." It was in the air that great things were to happen, but the crash came before the time dreamed of by the most optimistic. The monopoly was overthrown by the exigencies of war, but its days long since, like the days of serfdom seventy-five years ago, had been numbered. The same causes that precipitated the war and the death of the monopoly also precipitated this volume.

A few words of explanation seem necessary. Because of the peculiarities of the Russian alphabet and vocabulary sounds, there is much variation in the spelling of Slavic words when done into English by current writers. No system of uniform rendering has been agreed upon by English translators, and a great variety of English spelling is the result. For instance, take the name of Doctor Grigoriev, the editor of the Petrograd temperance monthly, *Viestnik Trezvosti* (*Temperance Messenger* or *Temperance Courier*). The Russian rendering of his name is Докторъ Григорьевъ. It may be spelled into English as Grigorieff, Grigoriev, Grigorieu or Grigoriev. It may be found translated into English in either of these ways. I have chosen the spelling Grigoriev and have rendered all Russian names of the same Slavic termination in the same way. Further, where Russian words are rendered into English with two or more different spellings, each of which is equally authoritative, I have, in the interest of simplified spelling, used the shorter. For instance, I have spelled *veche* instead of *vetche* and *Duma* instead of *Douma*. Conforming to the taste of Slavic scholars, I spell *Tsar* instead of *Czar*.

As the outcome of the war, the name of the Russian capital, St. Petersburg was changed to Petrograd. To avoid confusion, this particular city is always referred to as Petrograd, throughout the book, regardless of the date of reference.

The Russian dates throughout this volume, so far as they can be identified, are "Old Style," conforming to the Russian calendar, which is thirteen days behind our own. In the case of dates, other than those of Russia, the "New Style" is followed. In other words, I adopt the same calendar dates used by the country to which the item or event occurs.

This will account for some apparent discrepancies of dates with those in current English literature. The Russians would be glad to change their calendar to conform to that of the rest of the world only that such a change would meet with powerful opposition from those opposed to upsetting the numerous feast days, saints' days and other holidays. The Slav would not suffer that to happen for any cause.

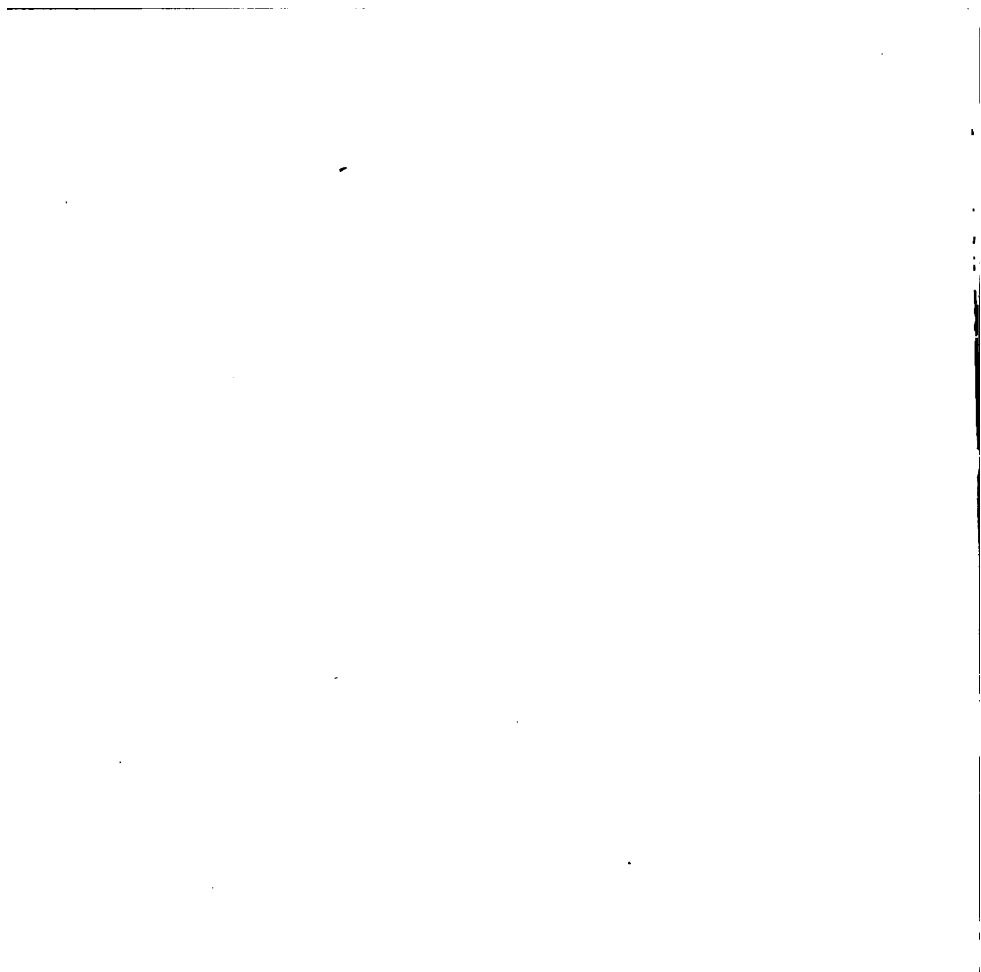
For translations and many helpful suggestions, I am indebted to Leo Pasvolksy of the editorial staff of *Russkoye Slovo*, the excellent Russian daily newspaper of New York City. By her careful revisions of my manuscript, Dr. Sarah M. Sherrick, of Otterbein College, has placed herself under obligations of the reader. She has had a civilizing and restraining influence upon my Arizona English. The drawings throughout are the work of Russell S. Henderson.

THE AUTHOR.

Westerville, Ohio, March 25, 1915.

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MICHAEL DIMITROVICH TSHELISHEV
DRY LEADER OF THE IMPERIAL DUMA
WHO PERSONALLY AND SUCCESSFULLY INTERCEDED
WITH THE TSAR TO DECREE THE PRO-
HIBITION OF VODKA

TO VISIT
AND/OR



GRAND DUKE CONSTANTINE

RULER OF THE PROHIBITION CITY OF PASVOLSK.
IT WAS TO HIM THAT THE TSAR
TELEGRAPHED HIS INTENTION TO DISCONTINUE THE
GOVERNMENT MONOPOLY PERMANENTLY

70 WML
ABSTRACT



COUNT SERGIUS JULEVICH WITTE
WHO LAUNCHED THE RUSSIAN VODKA MONOPOLY
AS A FISCAL AND PHILANTHROPIC MEASURE.
IT HAVING FAILED IN ITS PURPOSE, HE AIDED IN
BRINGING IT TO AN END

TO WHOM IT MAY COME
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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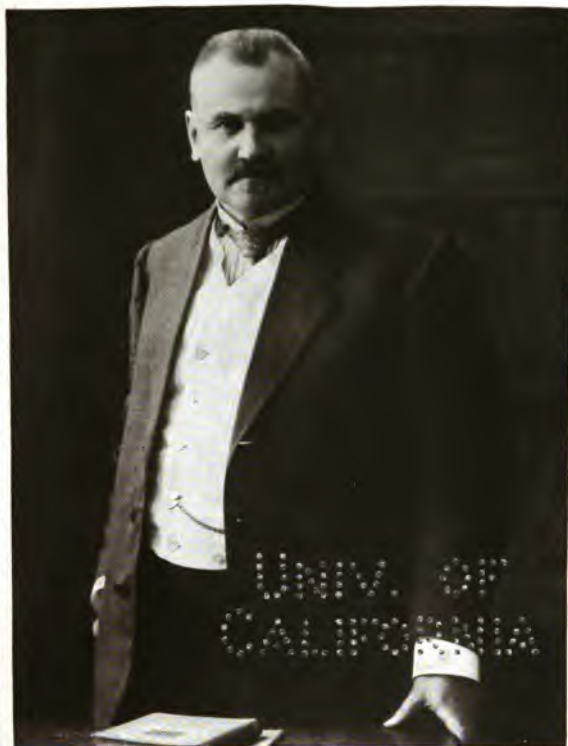
NICHOLAS DE CRAMER
RUSSIAN NOBLEMAN, MEMBER IMPERIAL COUNCIL,
WHO, WITH COUNT WITTE, LED THE DEBATE
IN THAT BODY FOR EXCISE REFORM

70 1943
ABSTRACT



GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS NICOLAEVVICH
COMMANDER OF RUSSIAN TROOPS,
WHO ADVISED THE TSAR TO ABOLISH VODKA,
AND WHO EXPELLED VODKA, WINE AND BEER
FROM HIS MILITARY JURISDICTION

70 1980
AMERICAN



DR. MATTI HELENIUS-SEPPALA
MEMBER OF THE FINNISH DIET AND RECOGNIZED
LEADER OF THE TEMPERANCE REFORM
IN SUOMI. A FAMILIAR FIGURE AT INTERNATIONAL
TEMPERANCE GATHERINGS

TO THE
LIBRARY



MADAME ALI TRYGG HELENIUS
LEADER OF WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION
OF FINLAND. FOR A DOZEN YEARS
SHE HAS LED THE FINNISH MATRONS IN THEIR WAR
ON ALCOHOLIC DRINKS

TO WHOM
IT MAY COME



ALEXANDER II.

IN ADDITION TO ABOLISHING SERFDOM
THROUGHOUT RUSSIA, HE ABOLISHED THE "FARMING
SYSTEM" OF LIQUOR LICENSING,
SUBSTITUTING A SYSTEM OF EXCISE TAXATION

NO MORE
ABSORBED



ALEXANDER III.

THE REAL FOUNDER OF THE MODERN RUSSIAN
ALCOHOL MONOPOLY.
IN 1885 HE INSTRUCTED HIS MINISTER OF FINANCE
TO DEVISE PLANS FOR THE PROPOSAL

70 VINI
ALBANO



THE PRINCE OF OLDENBURG
HEAD OF THE PETROGRAD "Y. M. C. A.," RUN IN
CONJUNCTION WITH THE GREEK CHURCH,
AND ALSO HEAD OF THE PETROGRAD TEMPERANCE
ORGANIZATIONS

70 JMM
AIRBORNE



GRAND DUKE MICHAEL ALEXIS, THE TSAREVICH
HEIR TO THE RUSSIAN THRONE
AND PATRON OF THE TEMPERANCE ENTERPRISES
AT MOSCOW